

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 212

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Jim K. Lancaster upon his induction into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding citizens who are dedicated to promoting the importance of farming in our society; and

WHEREAS, agriculture has been a cornerstone of Wilson County since the county's founding in 1799, and those citizens involved in agriculture have always been a vital part of the community; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Jim K. Lancaster, who was recently inducted into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame for his life's work as an agricultural advocate; and

WHEREAS, born on June 11, 1929, in Smith County, Mr. Lancaster is the oldest of twin sons born to Edward and Dimple Knight Lancaster; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Gordonsville High School, Jim Lancaster attended Tennessee Technological University on a football scholarship; he served as President of the "T" Club, was elected to *Who's Who Among College Students*, and received All Conference honors as a single wing tailback; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from that distinguished institution with highest honors and his Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy in 1951; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lancaster was joined in holy matrimony with Vondell Green on June 12, 1951, and their blessed union produced four outstanding children: Celia Oldham, Lucy Cowley, Jim Lancaster, and John Lancaster; and

WHEREAS, that same year, Jim Lancaster accepted a position with the University of Tennessee Extension in Morgan County and worked assiduously as an Assistant County Agricultural Extension Agent; and

WHEREAS, for forty-three years, Mr. Lancaster served with acumen and alacrity as the Manager of the Tennessee Farm Bureau's Wilson County office, leading the company in life insurance production every year until taking a much deserved retirement in 1995; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Jim Lancaster was unrelenting in his quest for knowledge, becoming a Certified Life Underwriter in 1972, earning an Advanced Estate Planning degree in 1973, and becoming a chartered Financial Consultant in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lancaster is a dedicated civic leader who has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order through his work with numerous organizations, including serving as the President of the Lebanon Jaycees and the Lebanon Wilson County Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Board of Peoples Bank, local camp President of Gideon's International, and member of the Lebanon Rotary Club and the Cumberland University Board of Trust. He has also been very involved in scouting, serving as the Chairman of the Walton Trail District and as an Executive Board Member for Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a humble servant of the Almighty, Jim Lancaster is a charter member of the Westland United Methodist Church in Lebanon, where he has faithfully served his Lord for many years; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Mr. Lancaster is a member of the Robert E. Musto Insurance Hall of Fame and received an honorary Doctorate in Literary Letters from Cumberland University, the Jaycee's Distinguished Service Award, and Tennessee Technological University's Outstanding Service Award; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Jim Lancaster is most grateful for the love and support he shares with his beloved wife and their four children, twelve grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame honors those dedicated citizens who have committed their lives to developing and maintaining the highest agricultural standards and principles, and it is fitting that this General Assembly pause in its deliberations to honor Mr. Lancaster for his lifetime of achievements; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Jim K. Lancaster upon his induction into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame and recognize his laudable contributions to upholding the agricultural traditions of Wilson County and the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.